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SOME SCHOOL STATISTICS

Taken from State Superintendent Gass' Latest Report.

OUR SHOWING IS GOOD

Enumeration of Children in State Has Steadily Decreased During the Past Four Years.

A fancier of statistics could spend several days with pleasure in reading the latest report of State Superintendent of Schools Howard A. Gass. Every page bristles with interesting figures and statements. A few facts of special interest to the people of Lexington and Lafayette county are here presented.

The report deals with the school year ending June 30, 1908.

For the past four years the enumeration of school children in the state has shown a gradual decrease. The largest enumeration was in 1904, the grand total being 998,727 children. The grand total in 1908, was 984,650, a decrease in four years of 14,068. This shows an average annual decrease of 3,517 pupils.

In regard to this Mr. Gass says: "But two possible reasons can be offered for this marked falling off in the numbers of children. It may mean that the population of Missouri is decreasing, or it may mean that race suicide is an established fact in Missouri. That Missouri's population is really decreasing in the ratio of the decrease in enumeration of school children is hardly probable. The United States census of 1910 may tell. I am inclined to think that the decrease is to be attributed to the deliberate choice, by parents, of small families.

A few general facts noted are: There are more children in town schools than in rural schools.

In the town schools, the number of females exceeds the number of males, while in the country the number of males exceeds the number of females. The percentage of male teachers in rural districts is nearly twice as large as the percentage of male teachers in the town districts.

The 1,285 men teachers in towns receive for salaries \$1,206,959.95, while 3,318 men teachers in rural districts receive but \$904,709.82.

The 6,297 women teachers in towns receive \$3,549,446.87 while 9,730 women teachers in rural districts receive but \$1,616,618.17.

The town pupil is in school nearly twice as many days per year as the country pupil and the expenditure per child attending in towns is nearly twice as large as the expenditure per child attending in the rural districts.

Lafayette county has enrolled 5,806 children, compared with 5,446 in Ray, 6,896 in Saline, 6,597 in Johnson.

This county received for school purposes during the year \$113,576.37, compared with \$90,182.59 in Ray, \$242,824.47 in Saline, \$119,701.35 in Johnson.

Teachers' salaries in this county amounted to \$80,652.62, in Ray to \$54,473.09, in Saline to \$123,049.69, in Johnson to \$80,325.07.

Eighty-two districts of Lafayette county have libraries containing 11,277 volumes. There are 169 public school teachers in the county. Their average salary is \$47.88—male \$58.80, female \$42.67.

Lexington is stated to pay its male teachers an average of \$203.33 per month; but this is a mistake. It should be \$118.50. The average salary for female teachers in Lexington is stated as \$41.62.

Lexington's enrollment is 1,212; enumeration 1,676. The average daily attendance is 844.

Higginsville has an enumeration of 865, an enrollment of 639, an average attendance of 513. Its average salary of male teachers is \$62.50, of female teachers \$41.11.

Odesa has an average attendance of 284 and employs 9 teachers at an average salary of \$65.

Corder has an average attendance of 248 and employs 5 teachers at an average salary of \$55.80.

Waverly has an average attendance of 94 and employs 4 teachers at an average salary of \$47.50.

Wellington has an average attendance of 139 and employs 4 teachers at

an average salary of \$42.50.

Concordia out of an enumeration of 337 has an average attendance of but 80 on account of the church school at that place. It employs 3 teachers at an average salary of \$38.33.

Dover has an average attendance of 53 and employs 3 teachers at an average salary of \$38.13.

Napoleon has an average attendance of 60 and employs 2 teachers at an average salary of \$42.50.

Mayview has an average attendance of 87 and employs 4 teachers at an average salary of \$35.

Death of Mrs. Sarah M. Russell.

Mrs. Sarah M. Russell, one of the best-known and respected women of the county, died shortly after 4 o'clock Saturday morning at her home south of Lexington. Death was after a protracted illness and was due to heart disease.

Mrs. Russell was born near Winchester, Kentucky, June 9, 1835, and was nearly 74 years old. She was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fishback and with them came to this county when she was a child. On December 31, 1851, she was married to Dr. J. G. Russell, who died in 1900.

To this union were born six children, only one of whom, J. G. Russell, survives. Other living close relatives of Mrs. Russell are her sister, Mrs. Frank Campbell of Anderson, Mo., her grandson, Gholson Russell, and her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Sallie D. Russell, who lives on the Russell farm.

Mrs. Russell was one of the kindest, gentlest and most noble women that ever lived. She was ever attentive to her home duties with an unselfishness and tenderness that was beautiful. She was also an active and faithful member of the Presbyterian church, and her absence will be keenly felt by this organization.

The funeral was held from the home Monday afternoon at 2:30. Dr. E. C. Gordon conducted the services and interment was in Macphelah.

Brakeman Injured.

While engaged in coupling cars on the east branch of the switch at Myrick Thursday about 5:30 o'clock, J. C. Day, a brakeman on the river route local freight train, was caught between two cars and sustained injuries which may cause his death.

Day, at the time of the accident, was coupling a car to the engine, when the drawbars passed each other crushing Day's chest and shoulders. He is supposed to have sustained internal injuries besides badly bruising the muscles of his chest and shoulders. Day is 26 years old and unmarried and has been a brakeman for some time. He was taken to the Missouri Pacific hospital in Kansas City. His home is in Jefferson City.

Brought Here for Burial.

The body of Mrs. Miriam Gibson, widow of the late Newt Gibson, was brought here from Indianapolis, Indiana, yesterday for interment in Macphelah. Mrs. Gibson died in Indianapolis last Wednesday of paralysis. She was 74 years of age. Mrs. Gibson is survived by two sisters, Mrs. C. B. Cummings of Indianapolis and Mrs. Ellen Campbell of St. Louis. Mrs. Gibson will be remembered by many residents of this city as she lived here many years. The remains were taken to the home of Edward Eastham, where the funeral was held at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The services were conducted by Rev. Rickman.

Blind Boone's concert.

The gallery at the opera house was jammed and the remainder of the house well sprinkled Thursday evening at the concert of the Blind Boone Concert company and every one present got his money's worth. The house was cold and Boone used the regular piano, not carrying his own this year; but still he put up an entirely creditable performance.

The soprano, Emma Smith, was pleasing and nearly broke up the show by her rendering of Ma Brudde Sylvest. The gallery was so convulsed that it took some time to restore order. The contralto, Jessie Brosius, had a good voice and received two encores.

Mrs. J. C. Young, Sr., returned from Kansas City Wednesday evening.

Chas. Russell went to Kansas City Thursday with a view to locating.

Mrs. C. T. Ryland returned Thursday from a short stay in Kansas City.

CORDER ITEMS.

Taylor Alcar shipped hogs to St. Louis market Tuesday.

John Wilson and wife of Higginsville visited relatives here Sunday.

Oscar Green visited in Higginsville Monday.

K. P. Kramer and wife attended the funeral of Mrs. Fred Siegfried of Higginsville Tuesday.

Misses Hannah and Joda Groves are visiting in Kansas City this week.

Wm. Wilson returned home Saturday after spending several days of last week in Saline county.

Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher spent Sunday with the family of W. H. Dean north of town.

Mrs. Fitzpatrick of Blackburn spent several days this week as the guest of Rev. W. B. Cobb and wife.

C. L. Wilson returned home Friday night from Colorado, where he visited his brother.

Ben Wilson spent a large part of last week in Malta Bend as the guest of Walter Lunbeck and wife.

Dewitt Hackley of Kansas City was in town the first part of the week and returned home Monday evening.

Joe Frerking, Tom Holman and Herter and Wollenman shipped cattle to St. Louis market Tuesday. They all brought good prices.

Edd Rodekohr, who is attending the university at Columbia, arrived here Monday evening to visit his parents and to attend the wedding of his sister.

Sale bills are out announcing the public sale of the stock and farm implements of the late J. M. Armentrout to be held at the deceased's farm southeast of Corder on Saturday, May 1. Wm. Wilson is auctioneer.

Peachy Rhodes was appointed administrator of the Armentrout estate this week by the county court. He with S. M. Reynolds and Wm. Wilcox appraised the property on the farm and set the date of the public sale for Saturday, May 1.

Remember "The Village Post-office" is to be given Friday night, April 23, at the Auditorium. Everyone is especially invited to come to see this play as the proceeds go to the chair fund and to the Christian church.

Mrs. Mahan, lecturer and organizer for the W. C. T. U., lectured at the Baptist church last Monday night on "Temperance." On account of the bad weather a large number of people were unable to come out, but notwithstanding this a large audience was present and enjoyed the lecture very much. In the course of the evening the speaker told of her trip through the largest brewery in the world and many other interesting things. After about an hour's talk the audience was dismissed by the pastor of the church and all felt that they were well paid for having courage enough to come out in the rain.

A very pretty wedding took place at the German Lutheran church here last Wednesday at 3 p. m. The bride, Miss Louise Rodekohr is the daughter of one of Lafayette county's most successful farmers, Harry Rodekohr, and is well known to everyone. The groom Edward Dankenbrink, is a well known young gentleman of near Sweet Springs. Rev. Geo. Moeller officiated at the ceremony, after which the party was accompanied to the bride's home, where a delicious supper was spread. A large number of the guests was present and a lovely evening was spent. The new couple will make their future home near Sweet Springs and all friends wish them the best of good fortune.

The two plays given by the seniors at the auditorium last Tuesday night were a decided hit. A good sized audience was present and the performance was enjoyed by all. The curtain raised at 8:15 prompt and the laugh began which lasted throughout the evening. The costumes were good and the "make ups" fine. Each member of the company was a show within himself. These young people put all possible efforts forth to make the play a good one and they hit their mark. In addition to the "Ugliest of Seven," "Mrs. Plodding's Nieces" was also put on and it, too, was enjoyed by the audience. Those taking part in the play deserve the praise of everyone.

T. W. Ludwig spent Thursday in Kansas City.

DOVER NOTES.

Capt. Erv. Zeysing was in Waverly Sunday.

Dr. W. G. Harwood was in Lexington Saturday.

Birwell Stark had business here Tuesday.

James Cather had business in Lexington Saturday.

John Cooper spent Wednesday in Higginsville.

J. M. Redd had business in Kansas City this week.

Mrs. Sam Vaughan and Mrs. W. B. Harwood shopped in Higginsville Saturday.

Will Wheeler and family of Lexington are here visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Wheeler.

Mrs. Walter Beattie went to Lexington Sunday evening to nurse her daughter, Miss Florence Belle, who has been quite sick with the measles.

Mrs. M. L. Montague and two children of Marshall, are visiting this week with her mother, Mrs. Eliza P. Cox.

Rev. Wm. Cook and wife of Pleasant Hill, are visiting with their daughter, Mrs. Will Neer.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Stark were in Lexington Saturday.

Prof. Carl Harwood closed a very successful term of school at the Slusher school Wednesday.

Mrs. Malinda Haggard has been quite sick this week at her home North of town.

Dr. W. G. Harwood went to Bonner Springs, Kansas, Wednesday morning for a visit with his uncle, Dr. Robert Carter.

Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Henshaw of Geary, Oklahoma, announce the birth of a daughter on Friday, April 16th to whom they have given the name of Katherine.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Slusher entertained about forty young people last Friday night in honor of their son, George. The evening was very pleasantly spent in conversation and music. Refreshments were served.

Gordon Stark spent Friday night with Prof. Carl Harwood.

Rev. Harbord of Kansas City filed his appointment here Sunday morning and night. He will preach again the first Sunday in May.

Ed Littlejohn, wife and two daughters, Nellie and Alice, came down from Independence Saturday morning for a short stay. In company with W. J. Littlejohn and family and Mesdames Nannie and Mary Littlejohn they spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Cole, where they enjoyed a sumptuous dinner prepared by Mrs. Cole and daughter, Miss Helen.

About three weeks ago Mrs. Willard Smith was instrumental in organizing a society here for young people and children called the "New Century Knights." The object of the society is to be something and do something for the up lifting of humanity, better morals and purer lives. The meetings are every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 at the different churches successively. Next Sunday's meeting will be at the Methodist church. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Some of the patrons are: Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Wahl, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bertrand, Mrs. Walter Beattie, Mrs. Robert Fox, Mrs. J. M. Redd, Mrs. Mattie Cole, Joseph Malone, Willard Smith, Prof. J. R. Plattenburg and others.

Council Proceedings.

The city council met in adjourned session Tuesday evening with the Mayor in the chair and all councilmen present. It was one of the most spirited meetings that that body has had for some time.

Sill and Slusher, through their attorney Clarence Vivion, recently applied to Capt. J. A. Wilson, city engineer, for a permit to erect and maintain a mule barn, on property owned by the firm at Thirteenth street and Franklin avenue. The Board of Education, James C. McGrew, Sr., Pres. E. W. White and others appeared before the council at Tuesday night's meeting and protested against granting said permit.

Each side of the question was taken up thoroughly and after hearing the arguments on both sides, Capt. Wilson refused to grant the permit. It was moved and seconded by the council to approve and confirm the decision of the engineer.

An ordinance was passed and approved to prohibit the erection of livery, feed or sale stables on certain portions of Franklin Avenue, South street and Thirteenth street in

the City of Lexington.

An ordinance was introduced changing the grade of Franklin Avenue from 13th street to 20th street. This ordinance was passed and approved.

The council passed a resolution providing for the construction of sidewalks, and also providing for the service of notice on owners of property and declaring it necessary for the construction of sidewalks in front of and at sides of certain tracts and lots in the city.

Council adjourned to meet in adjourned session Monday, April 26.

Circuit Court.

In the circuit court Wednesday the case of Joseph L. Youngs et al Trustees was continued until the August term made of court.

In the matter of Etta Long et al vs. Mary Barnes et al, the commissioners' report was approved and order made of sale of real estate for cash.

In the case of Daniel Flournoy against Mattie A. V. Robinson et al, defendants except defendant Gladys Robinson entered voluntary appearance to action and writ of summons ordered for defendant Gladys Robinson.

The case of David B. Freeland vs. Laura Freeland was continued to August term.

Wm. Guenther et al partitioners, pro forma decree was granted petitioners incorporating Lafayette Missionary Baptist church of Concordia.

Ida Ashworth was granted a decree of divorce against R. W. Ashworth. The bond of Chas. Lyons as trustee for the minor heirs of Ruben Hills deceased, was approved.

The bonds of Albert F. Winkler Treasurer and James R. Moorehead Secretary of Lexington Building and Loan Association were approved.

In the case State ex rel Keith, prosecuting attorney vs. Higginsville Ranch No. 2 Order of Shamrocks, the plaintiff filed petition for temporary injunction and same was set for hearing May 4, 1909.

Court adjourned until May 4, 1909.

K. C. K. Walloped.

Wentworth put another mark on the credit side of her base ball ledger Saturday afternoon when the soldiers walloped the Kansas City Kansas High school team to the tune of 8 to 2. Although the difference in the score is rather big, the game was a good one all the way. The cadets won by hard hitting at the right time and the great twirling of Hurley. Wentworth pounced Gillman, the Kansan's slasher for 12 clouts and most of these brought in scores. Kansas City got 7 hits from Hurley. The cadets also put over some very clever base running and they clearly had it on their opponents in that line. The cadets pliffed in all 8 sacks. Garzee and Hurley excelled in robbing the stations. The attending crowd was the best so far this season. The day was ideal excepting a high wind which interfered considerably with the fielders.

Batteries: K. C. K.—Gillman and McCollam; W. M. A.—Hurley and Matchett.

Lynn Gordon was in Kansas City yesterday.

Mrs. Gus Weber spent yesterday in Kansas City.

E. D. Graham left Thursday evening for a trip to Moberly.

Ruffner Smith of Kansas City was here Thursday.

Mrs. Sam Walker of Higginsville was here Thursday.

Mrs. J. F. Winn and Mrs. Lee Meng were in Kansas City Thursday.

E. B. Campbell went to Kansas City yesterday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Cannaday went to Kansas City Thursday for a brief stay.

Mrs. F. M. Hord returned Thursday evening from a visit with relatives in Osceola, Mo.

Dr. E. C. Gordon left Wednesday evening for a trip to Richland, Cal., on church business.

Mrs. Josephine Walk and daughter, Alma, returned to Odessa yesterday after a visit with relatives in this city.

Mrs. C. B. Sexton accompanied by her little daughter, Mary Ellen, of Chicago arrived yesterday for a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Stramcke.

Mrs. M. F. Rose returned to her home in Slater yesterday after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Carter in this city. Mrs. Carter accompanied her as far as Higginsville to spend the day.

The Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra a Great Organization.

The finest body of musicians, individually and collectively, west of Chicago today is the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, which has recently closed a season of twenty-two concerts in Minneapolis—concerts rich in magnificent examples of standard and symphonic musical literature and punctuated by many modern compositions never before heard in the Northwest.

Organized six years ago, under the leadership of Emil Oberhoffer, the career of this orchestra has been one of remarkable advance in size, personnel and ability. It has now reached an invulnerable position among the great orchestras of the country. Early in its existence the liberal supporters of the Minneapolis Symphony orchestra recognized the soundness of Mr. Oberhoffer's principle that a good orchestra cannot be made from eight or ten capable musicians, sprinkled among fifty or sixty players of mediocre attainments. Realizing that a perfect whole can be made only of perfect parts, Mr. Oberhoffer has employed only talented and intelligent musicians for his orchestra, drawing them from nearly every well known orchestra in Europe and America, and it is this liberal policy, combined with the forceful and artistic personality of the conductor, that has placed the Minneapolis orchestra at the head of Western musical organizations. With such a foundation to work upon, and with Mr. Oberhoffer's exceptional and apparently intuitive talent for attractive program construction, it is little wonder that Minneapolis is blessed musically as few cities in this country are, or that her citizens appreciate this blessing to the extent of gladly subscribing an annual guaranty fund of thirty thousand dollars for the maintenance of the orchestra and of crowding the big Auditorium, with its seating capacity of nearly three thousand persons, at every concert.

During the season a symphony concert is given every two weeks on Friday evening, the program including a symphony with four or five other numbers of splendid and varied quality and at each evening concert a soloist of world wide reputation appears. A popular concert is given every Sunday afternoon, and the wide and sustained interest that the general public has taken in these lighter programs has been as remarkable as gratifying.

Emil Oberhoffer, conductor of the Minneapolis Symphony orchestra, is an exceedingly interesting, and in many ways a unique figure in the broad and attractive musical field of this country. He was born near Munich, Bavaria, his father being a well known musical director. He became a resident of Minneapolis about fourteen years ago and at once, by virtue of his forceful talents and intelligence, took a prominent place among the musicians of the city. As leader of the Apollo club and Philharmonic club his rare endowments as a director were recognized, and when he took the conductor's desk of the new Symphony Orchestra it was realized that he was not only a musical director of unusual qualifications, but that he possessed, in rare combination, the other characteristics necessary to build up so complicated and delicate a mechanism as that of a good orchestra, and to create public interest, confidence and enthusiasm. These Mr. Oberhoffer established by unexcelled energy, persistence and determination. His record of artistic industry is unblemished by the slightest touch of sensationalism though the results he has attained have been in a way sensational.

The members of the orchestra over whom he exercises a rigid discipline, are all devoted to him, for they recognize that his control is based upon his one ambition; that of obtaining from his many voiced instrument the most perfect results. He thus possesses their sympathy as well as their obedience, two of the most important of the innumerable details in the successful management of an orchestra.

It seems now that there are no musical heights to which the Minneapolis Symphony orchestra may not reach. It has a young, ardent and accomplished conductor, an artistic and devoted personnel and the enthusiastic and affectionate support of a city that is already recognized as the musical center of the Northwest.

This orchestra will be at Geyer's Grand Opera house Monday evening, May 3.

F. N. Adams was in Higginsville Wednesday.